

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 IGA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 /072 W

----- 098720

R 061310Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6114

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMTM DHAHRAN

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

S E C R E T SANA 2172

1. SUMMARY: WEST GERMAN CHARGE IN SANA CLAIMS FGR PROVIDING "SEVERAL MILLION MARKS" GRANT " MILITARY ASSISTANCE" TO YAR.

2. WEST GERMAN CHARGE IN SANA TOLD ME TODAY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT PROVIDES SIZEABLE AMOUNT OF GRANT ASSISTANCE TO YAR UNDER GUISE OF ITS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO YAR. THE PROGRAM WHICH FRG CHARGE CALLED "QUITE LARGE" AMOUNTS TO "SEVERAL MILLIONS OF MARKS" AND PROVIDES MERCEDES TRUCKS, COMMUNICATION GEAR, TRAINING OF YAR MILITARY FOR MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS IN GERMANY, VARIOUS PIECES OF EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT FOR YAR ARMY ENGINEERS. CHARGE WAS CATEGORIC THAT GRANTS NOT RPT NOT LOANS WERE INVOLVED.

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2. FRG CHARGE STUMBLED INTO ADMITTING THE ABOVE AND WITH

GREAT EMBARRASSMENT ASKED ME NOT TO REPORT IT. PLEASE PROTECT.

3. GERMAN PROGRAM WAS SAID TO BE CONCEIVED AS PROVIDING ALTERNATIVE SOURCE OF SUPPLY TO YAR MILITARY AT TIME WHEN SOVIET SUPPLY OF SPARE PARTS AND NEW EQUIPMENT WAS FROZEN. FRG CHARGE SAID THAT YEMENI CHIEF OF STAFF GHASHMI HAD RECENTLY APPROACHED HIM CONCERNING SALE OF LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT. CHARGE MADE IT CLEAR FRG COULDNUT RPT NOT RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST.

4. GERMAN CHARGE SAID THEIR MILITARY AID PROGRAM GAVE THEM FREQUENT AND CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THE YAR MILITARY AND FROM THESE HE WAS CONVINCED THAT RESPONSIVE US ARMS PROGRAM IN YEMEN WOULD QUICKLY LEAD TO COMPLETE EXPULSION OF SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS.

5. COMMENT: NO ONE IN AMEMBASSY SANA HAD EVER HEARD OF FRG GRANTS WHICH GO TO BENEFIT YAR MILITARY. IF REPORT IS TRUE, PERHAPS AFTER USG SALES BEGIN FRG MIGHT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY SPARE PARTS OR OTHERWISE EXPAND ASSISTANCE WITHIN WHATEVER FIXED LIMITS EXISTS FOR FRG IN MIDDLE EAST JAMS SUPPLY. SINCE PROGRAM HAS OBVIOUSLY BEEN VERY CAREFULLY HIDDEN UP TO NOW HOWEVER, PRESUMABLY GERMANS WOULD NOT WANT ANY EXPANSION WHICH WOULD BE CONSPICUOUS. IN ANY CASE, IN OUR VIEW, WESTERN ARMS SUPPLIES WOULD HAVE TO MATERIALIZE VERY QUICKLY FOR YEMENIS TO COMPLETELY CUT MILITARY TIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. RESULT WE CAN EXPECT IN VIEW OF LIKELY SIZE OF US SALES PROGRAM IS MORE LIKELY TO BE REDUCTION OF SOVIET PRESENCE AND FURTHER DILUTION OF THEIR INFLUENCE. AS FOR EAST GERMANS, WITH TWO DIPLOMATS AND NO RPT NO AID PROGRAM HERE, THEY ARE ALREADY NEGLIGIBLE FACTOR ON YEMENI SCENE.
RANSOM

SECRET

NNN

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